COCHIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Friday, *the* *1st of August 1930.* / *17th of Karkadagam 1105.*

The House met at Half past Eleven of the Clock with the President in the Chair. The Political Agent was also present. Messrs. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar, T. K. Nayar, K. T. Mathew, Ouseph P. Kundukulam and Dr. A. R. Menon were absent.

Swearing in of new Members.

(Mr. V. Achyuta Menon, the new Member for Irinjalakkuda in place of Mr. V. D. Ouseph resigned, took and subscribed the oath of allegiance.)

Opening Statement by the President.

President.—Hon'ble Members of the Cochin Legislative Council,

On the occasion of this, in all probability the last Budget Session of the present Legislative Council, it is both my privilege and pleasant duty to accord to you all a hearty welcome. Let me give expression to my ardent desire that the deliberations on this important occasion will be characterised with sobriety, calmness and dignity, and that they will be of benefit to the numerous loving subjects of His Highness our gracious Maharaja. I shall always feel deeply grateful to one and all of you for the willing co-operation and support I seek at your hands in the discharge of the onerous duties appertaining to the position I hold as the President of this Legislative Council.

I feel exceptionally fortunate this time in not being placed in the position of having to relate to you any disaster or havoc which it was my painful duty to narrate at the Budget Session of last year consequent on the destructive, though short-lived, flood of that year. We are, I hope, luckily saved from any such terrific flood this year.

I need hardly point out that the present is not a period of complete peace and tranquillity for British India from a political point of view though matters appear to be not subject to grave anxiety in the Indian States. In the announcement of His Excellency Lord Irwin made on the 1st of November last year and on 9th July this year regarding the future constitution of India, there is abundant cause for a satisfactory outcome, and

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it must be the sincere desire of every one interested in the well-being of the people of India that the deliberations at the forth-coming Round Table Conference in London fixed for the 20th October next will bear fruitful results and ultimately result in a constitution conducive to the peace and progress of India.

The honoured presence in our midst at the commencement of this session of Mr. Cater, the worthy representative in the Madras States of the august Paramount Power has given us no small pleasure, and, on behalf of the Members of the Cochin Legislative Council, I wish to convey to Mr. Cater our deep gratitude for his condescension to be present to-day and his abiding interest in our Council Proceedings.

With these few remarks, I declare this session open for business.

First item, Questions and Answers.

Questions and Answers.

Q'ran teachers and their pay.

1. **Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.**—Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it has been brought to their notice the great hardship experienced by the Q'ran teachers in eking out their existence with the allowance of Rs. 10 given to them;

(b) whether the teachers have any other source of income for their livelihood ;

(c) whether the Government will be pleased to sanction to them the lowest pay of the Primary School Teachers ?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—(a) Government have received representations that their allowance may be further revised.

(b) Not known.

(c) Government do not think it necessary to have a further revision at present.

Syllabus for the teaching of Q'ran.

2. **Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.**—Will the Government kindly say :—

(a) whether there is any syllabus approved by the Govern-ment for the teaching of Q'ran ;

(b) if the answer is in the affirmative, whether there is any provision therein for the teaching of the elements of the Arabic language ?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

Salary of Arabic Pandits.

3. **Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.**—Will the Government be pleased to state whether, consistently with their decision to

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